

177-1573/A

5 MAR 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH : General Counsel  
Deputy Director for Support  
Deputy Director for Plans  
Executive Director-Comptroller

SUBJECT : Proposed Declassification and Release  
Of Explosive Residue Detection Techniques

1. This memorandum proposes action to declassify and disseminate the Explosives Residue Detection Technique to law enforcement officials and contains a recommendation in this regard for your approval in paragraph seven.

2. Since the declassification and dissemination through the facilities of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration of the Trace Metal Detection Technique, we have received impressive feed-back of the value of that technique in enhancing scientific crime detection procedures. Several police organizations have expressed deep interest in any technique similar to the Trace Metal Detection Technique which would be of value in scientific crime detection involving cases in which explosives were handled.

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addition, the technique has been demonstrated before an expanded meeting of the Security Committee of the United States Intelligence Board, again with our expression of restrictions on use because of the classified nature of the techniques.

4. I believe that the declassification and dissemination of the two explosive residue techniques, one of which detects minute traces of RDX and TNT based explosives and the other which detects Nitroglycerine and related Nitrate Esters, such as found in dynamite, would be a significant Agency contribution to the national priority defined in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Acts of 1968.

6. There is no question that declassification and release of this technique to both federal and public law enforcement officials in this country will further cement our very close relationships with those officials who know the true Agency origin of the techniques. In addition, the release of these techniques is a very real and timely public service which will provide law enforcement officials with added capability which they sorely need in meeting the rising wave of explosives in crimes of violence throughout the nation.

7. It is, therefore, recommended that you approve the declassification of the explosive residue detection techniques and the release of the technique to the Attorney General for technology transfer to the nation's law enforcement agencies. In this connection, I have prepared for your signature a proposed memorandum to the Attorney General to provide the basis for further discussions and implementing action between operating officials of the executive agent selected by the Attorney General and this Office.

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Howard J. Osborn  
Director of Security

Attachment

CONCURRENCE:

25X1A

Lawrence R. Houston  
General Counsel

15 Mar. '71  
Date

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Thomas H. Karameessing  
Deputy Director  
for Plans

8 March 71  
Date

CONCURRENCE:

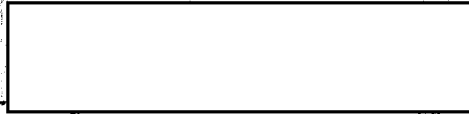
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John W. Coffey  
Deputy Director  
for Support

10 March 71  
Date

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L. K. White  
Executive Director-Comptroller

12 March 71  
Date

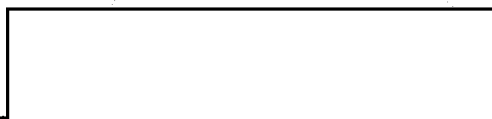
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ORIGINATOR:

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Howard J. Osborn  
Director of Security

5 MAR 87

Date

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TOP SECRET

Cl: (Optional)

Howard J. Osborn Director of Security 4E-60		EXTENSION  <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 50px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	NO.  DATE <b>25X1</b>
Chief designation, room number, and initials	DATE		COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED	
General Counsel			<p>The Chief, Technical Services Division, Clandestine Services, concurs in this paper.</p> <p>Assuming the Director's approval of this proposal, I would suggest the following action:</p> <p>a. Mr. Houston and I use the Director's letter to the Attorney General as entry to the new Administrator of LEAA.</p> <p>b. We provide an advanced simultaneous briefing of our police liaison contacts in this area and in other</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 300px; height: 40px; margin: 10px auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>25X1A</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 180px; height: 40px; margin: 10px auto;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;">#Howard J. Osborn Director of Security</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 380px; height: 150px; margin: 10px auto;"></div>
Deputy Director Plans			
Deputy Director Support			
Executive Director- Inspector	3/15		
Deputy Director of Internal Intelligence			
Director of Central Intelligence			
Deputy Director Support			
Director of Security 4E-60			

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